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Attorney General Files Lawsuit Against Sterigenics for EtO Emissions:

Key Message: Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan filed a lawsuit against Sterigenics. DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin also joined the lawsuit, which alleges one count of causing, threatening or allowing air pollution and one count of maintaining a common law public nuisance. It alleges Sterigenics poses a public health threat and seeks to ban all ethylene oxide emissions if the court finds there's no safe level of the chemical. Sterigenics has stated that it will defend itself against the lawsuit.

This spring, EPA monitoring detected elevated levels of ethylene oxide near the Sterigenics facility in the community. A report published by ATSDR shows an elevated cancer risk exists for residents and off-site workers, assuming chronic exposure. EPA is working with Illinois EPA and Sterigenics to reduce emissions of ethylene oxide from the company's facility. In July, the company installed additional pollution controls to capture ethylene oxide emissions.

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